

From: John Willingham
To: The Memphis Charter Commission
Date: April 18, 2007
Re: The MLG&W Board of Directors

Commissioners

I, John Willingham, am calling for the members of the Charter Commission to focus on creating representative accountability at MLG&W. I want the MLG&W Board of Directors to become an elected body, giving the voters of Memphis who are also the primary rate payers and, in some sense, the chief stockholders a greater voice at the city's public utility.

According to the "Willingham Plan", one of the principle duties of the elected MLG&W Board of Directors will be to choose the companies president. Greater still the elected board will serve as a much needed third level of oversight for the multi-million dollar company which is actually owned by the citizens on Memphis. Other MLG&W Board responsibilities will include setting policies and procedures as well as fair utility rates for all mid-southerners.

"The Willingham Plan" calls for 9-elected board members to represent the same geographical districts as the City School Board. All board meetings and committee would be open to the public, as it is with the existing elected boards in our city and county. The goal is to make the operations and accountability of public company more assessable to the public.

I hope you will seriously take these thoughts into consideration, given the current state of affairs at our public utility.

Thank you,
Citizen John Willingham
